

Message Text

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SUBJ: KAZAKH PARTY CONGRESS

1. SUMMARY. DURING THE KAZAKH PARTY CONGRESS IN EARLY FEBRUARY FIRST SECRETARY KUNAYEV PRAISED BREZHNEV LAVISHLY AND ENDORSED THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS. IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY, BUT NOT THE POLICY ITSELF, WAS CRITICIZED. ONLY ONE MAJOR PERSONNEL CHANGE -- THE APPOINTMENT OF THE KGB HEAD AS A CANDIDATE BUREAU MEMBER -- WAS MADE AT THE CONGRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR PERSONNEL CHANGES OCCURRED IN KAZAKHSTAN EARLY IN 1975: THREE SECRETARIES OF THE REPUBLIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ONE FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WERE REPLACED. THUS, FOUR OF THE TEN NEWLY ELECTED KAZAKH PARTY BUREAU HAVE BEEN APPOINTED WITHIN THE LAST YEAR. THE ONLY CHANGE MADE AT THE CONGRESS, HOWEVER, WAS THE ADDITION OF THE NEW KGB CHAIRMAN, SHEVCHENKO, AS A CANDIDATE BUREAU MEMBER.

3. JUDGING FROM THE TEXT OF HIS SPEECH IN KAZAKHSTANSKAY PRAVDA FEBRUARY 5, KAZAKH PARTY FIRST SECRETARY (AND CPSU POLITBURO MEMBER) KUNAYEV
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WARMLY PRAISED BREZHNEV AND FREQUENTLY NOTED HIS

AUTHORITY IN THE POLITBURO. KUNAYEV REFERRED TO THE POLITBURO "HEADED BY" BREZHNEV FIVE TIMES, SETTING THE RECORD FOR USE OF THIS FORMULATION BY REPUBLIC FIRST SECRETARIES. HE ASSERTED THAT BREZHNEV WAS THE OUTSTANDING FIGURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' MOVEMENT, AND KUNAYEV ATTRIBUTED THE BUSINESS-LIKE AND SCIENTIFIC APPROACH OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND POLITBURO TO BREZHNEV PERSONALLY.

4. THE KAZAKH PARTY BOSS ALSO ENDORSED THE BREZHNEV FOREIGN POLICY LINE AND HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR THE "PREAC PROGRAM" AND CSCE.

5. KUNAYEV DISCUSSED AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS IN KAZAKHSTAN AT LENGTH, DIRECTING HIS COMMENTS TOWARD POOR IMPLEMENTATION RATHER THAN BASIC AGRICULTURAL POLICY. HE SPOKE APPROVINGLY OF THE MARCH 1965 CC PLENUM ON AGRICULTURE, ASSOCIATED WITH BREZHNEV.

6. COMMENT. AS A LONGTIME PROTEGE OF BREZHNEV, KUNAYEV'S FAVORABLE DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY WAS PREDICTABLE. THE ELECTION OF BUREAU MEMBERS AT THE CONGRESS REINFORCES THE IMAGE OF OVERALL CADRE STABILITY THAT HAS EMERGED FROM OTHER REPUBLIC CONGRESSES, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE UKRAINE. (SEPTTEL).
STOESSEL

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